

Johnny Nash wrote, it is going to be, it is not yet, but it is going to be a bright, bright sunshiny day. I certainly hope that report is true. I wish those who have control over the weather would work a little more quickly and bring us to this point, because we all like good weather. We could find those shade trees, Senator Rasmussen, planted along the highway, which are not included in valuation of the land for purposes of taxation, we could sit down under that tree, kick our shoes off, watch the clouds scud across the blue sky, watch the, Senator Hall, the cow sitting on a thistle, singing like a bird, and just enjoy ourselves. The rest of the session, I think then would just flow along very smoothly. But time is needed, and I think that time is being well spent, just as the time on this floor is being well spent. It is necessary. It must be done. This amendment, though, to bring back...bring us back to the point from which I started would say that the business and agricultural inventory would not be exempt from property tax. That, although it was a good political decision, probably was not a wise one for the state to make. We are now in that bind, and it is going to be worst next year, worse next year, where money is needed. I have never been of a mind that the government can say although the cost of everything is increasing, the cost of government can be reduced. There is no way of reducing the cost of government, no way, so I think we would have a job, if we were assuming our responsibilities, to explain to the public what taxes really are, what the cost of government is, and why, the same way it costs them more to operate their household each year, it costs the government more to operate.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Madam Speaker, and members, I strongly oppose this amendment, and the main reason is that we would cause chaos within every county across the state because, primarily, the business inventory, in this case, would be new car dealers, car dealers, as well as those that have agriculture, in this case cattle would be the inventory, or market hogs or that type of thing. And so it would create little fiefdoms within every county. Some would have a lesser cost of doing business or however you want to look at it. Others would have an increased cost of doing business. So it really isn't very practical, in my opinion, to have the counties have the local option, which is, essentially, what you are saying, based on what the people